

GC.06.10.8c

**GUILD COUNCIL**

14.06.10

<b>Author/contact:</b>	<b>Matt Ward (LGBTQ Officer) Edd Bauer (EEO)</b>
<b>Executive Summary:</b>	<b><i>This motion calls for the Guild to ensure that Non-Sabbatical Officers are given the same level of visibility and accountability as Sabbatical Officers in Guild publicity</i></b>
<b>Recommendation:</b>	<b>Approval</b>

Motion: Face to a name; Non-Sabb visibility

**Guild Council Notes:**

1. The Guild Officer Group is made up of eighteen officers: seven full time (Sabbatical) and eleven part time (Non-Sabbatical); four of which are Liberation Officers.
2. The Officer Team are identified on the 'Officer Team Blogs' page on the Guild website, as well as other literature such as booklets/flyers and posters throughout the Guild.
3. On the Officer Team Blogs page of the website, non-sabbatical officers are mentioned merely by name whereas the names of sabbatical officers are accompanied by a picture and their email address for contact purposes.
4. The Freshers booklet distributed to students in summer 2009 was lacking the same level of detail for Non-Sabbs, which was a particular problem for LGBTQ and disabled students looking to identify their representatives.
5. There are no posters in the Guild identifying Non-Sabbs to students or providing contact details.
6. Repeated attempts by the EEO and LGBTQ Officer over the past year to change this dynamic have either been dismissed as 'operational' or have otherwise gone completely ignored or unsupported by the Guild.
7. The blogs of the LGBTQ Officer and DSO have highly visible 'links' to the other officers with pictures of the entire team taken from the campaigning material in relevant Guild Officer Elections and Bye-Elections. This has been beneficial for students hoping to identify and contact their elected representative, regardless of whether or not they are a Sabb.
8. Every year, all candidates in the Guild Elections have photos taken to be used in later publicity, but these are not used to combat the severe lack of Non-Sabb visibility in the Guild.

Example:

[http://www.guildofstudents.com/news/index.php?page=article&news\\_id=140843](http://www.guildofstudents.com/news/index.php?page=article&news_id=140843)

### **Guild Council Believes:**

1. Non-Sabbs are elected to address specific issues of concern to students and/or to represent a specific subset of University students, and they do so while completing their studies at the same time.
2. In particular, Liberation Officers are elected to represent students who fall under the remit of their specific liberation campaign; as such, it is crucial that their constituents are able to identify and contact them.
3. As an example, closeted LGBTQ students who are unable to identify and contact the LGBTQ Officer face a significant barrier in their efforts to "come out" and accept their sexuality.
4. The Sabb-centric attitude of the Guild is historic, and discourages people from running for Non-Sabb positions in the Guild Officer Elections.
5. Consequently, in the 2010 Guild Officer Elections, six of the eleven officer positions were initially uncontested and the current officers took it upon themselves to encourage a specific candidate.
6. Additionally, new Non-Sabbs elected in Guild bye-elections often become quickly disillusioned with their new roles.

### **Guild Council Resolves:**

1. To ensure that Non-Sabbatical Officers are given the same level of visibility and accountability as Sabbatical Officers in Guild publicity.
2. To reuse publicity images of newly elected officers on the Officer Team Blogs page of the Guild Website, any related literature (particularly for Freshers) and posters within the Guild.
3. To end the strictly Sabb-centric attitude that is prevalent within the Guild and, in doing so, combat the historic reluctance of students to stand for Non-Sabb roles in the annual Guild Officer Elections.

### **Guild Council Mandates:**

1. The President to ensure that pictures and contact details (i.e. email) of the entire officer team are included in the Freshers' booklet that is to be distributed in summer 2010, in preparation for the 2010/11 academic year.
2. The President to ensure that links to the Non-Sabb blogs on the Officer Team Blogs page of the Guild website are accompanied by a photo and email address, as is the case for links Sabb blogs.

**Proposed:** Matt Ward – LGBTQ Officer

**Seconded:** Edward Bauer – Ethical and Environmental Officer

Claire Lister – Disabled Students' Officer

Allan Ssesanga – Ethnic Minority Officer

Anna Lawton – Anti-Racism/Anti-Fascism Officer

Jo Grainger – Community Action Officer

Matt Lamb – Vice-President Student Activities & Development-Elect

Emma Cooper – LGBTQ Officer-Elect